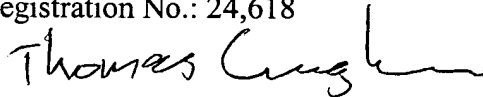


REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending. Applicants provide herewith copies of deposit receipts for VKPM B-8066, 8067, 8124, 8125, and 8126 and have amended the specification to recite specific deposit dates. This preliminary is being filed along with the original specification and claims and should be considered part of the original disclosure. An oath/declaration referring to this preliminary amendment will be filed in due course. Applicants now respectfully request early examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,
OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No.: 24,618



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Registration No.: 45,394

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22850

Marked-Up Copy Serial No: New Application Preliminary Amendment Filed Herewith

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 35, line 16, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain VL2054 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow, 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on January 30, 2001 under accession number VKPM B-8067, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 37, line 9, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The valine producing strain H-81 was transformed by the plasmid pYGAZH [carried] carrying the b2682 and b2683 genes under the control of the P_{lac} UV5 promoter. The strain H-81 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow, 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on January 30, 2001 under accession number VKPM B-8066, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 43, line 21, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain *E. coli* 505 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow, 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on May 14, 2001 under accession number VKPM B- 8124, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002.—

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 46, line 24, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain 218 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow 1, Dorozhny proezd, 1) under the accession number VKPM B-8125 since May 14, 2001, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 47, line 11, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain *E. coli* 73 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545 Moscow 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on May 14, 2001 under accession number VKPM B-8126, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

On page 56 of the specification, after Table 11, please insert:

--Modifications and other embodiments

Various modifications and variations of the described products, compositions and methods as well as the concept of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. Although the invention has been described in connection with specific preferred embodiments, it should be understood that the invention as claimed is not intended to be limited to such specific embodiments. Various modifications of the described modes for carrying out the invention which are obvious to those skilled in the biochemical, chemical, chemical engineering, molecular biological, medical, or pharmacological arts or related fields are intended to be within the scope of the following claims.

Incorporation by Reference

Each document, patent application or patent publication cited by or referred to in this disclosure is incorporated by reference in its entirety. Any patent document to which this application claims priority is also incorporated by reference in its entirety. Specifically, priority documents Russian Patent Application No. 2001103865, filed February 13, 2001; Russian Patent

Appendix 3

page 14

Budapest treaty on the international
recognition of the deposit of microorganisms
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To
Ajinomoto Co., Inc

INTERNATIONAL FORM
receipt in the case of an original deposit
issued pursuant to Rule 7.1 by the
INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY
identified at the bottom of this page

1-15-1 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku
Tokyo 104-8315
Japan
name and address
of depositor

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM

Identification reference given by the
DEPOSITOR

Escherichia coli H-81

Accession number given by the
INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY
AUTHORITY:

B-8066

II. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DESIGNATION

The microorganism identified under I above was accompanied by:

☒ a scientific description
☐ a proposed taxonomic designation
(Mark with a cross where applicable)

producer of L-valine

III. RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE

This International Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified under I above,
which was received by it on 30.01.01 (date of original deposit)

IV. RECEIPT OF REQUEST FOR CONVERSION

The microorganism identified under I above was received by this International Depositary
Authority
on 30.01.01 (date of original deposit) and a request to convert the
original deposit to a deposit under the Budapest Treaty was received by it on
01/02/02 (date of receipt of request for conversion)

V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY

Name: Russian National Collection
of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM)

GosNIIGenotika
Address: Russia 113545 Moscow
1 Dorozhny praezd 1

Signature (s) of person(s) having the
power to represent the International
Depositary

Authority or authorized official(s):

Date: Sineoky S.P.

05/02/02



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Tokyo 104-8315
Japan
name and address
of depositor

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM

Identification reference given by the
DEPOSITOR

Accession number given by the
INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY
AUTHORITY:
B-8067

Escherichia coli VL2054

II. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DESIGNATION

The microorganism identified under I above was accompanied by:

☒ a scientific description
☐ a proposed taxonomic designation
(Mark with a cross where applicable)

producer of L-threonine

III. RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE

This International Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified under I above,
I which was received by it on 30.01.01 (date of original deposit)

IV. RECEIPT OF REQUEST FOR CONVERSION

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original deposit to a deposit under the Budapest Treaty was received by it on
01/02/02 (date of receipt of request for conversion)

V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY

Name: Russian National Collection
of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM)

GosNIIGenetika
Address: Russia 113545 Moscow
1 Dorozhny proezd 1

Signature (s) of person(s) having the
power to represent the International
Depositary Authority or authorized official(s):
Date: 05/07/02
Sincoky S.P.



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Tokyo 104-8315
Japan
name and address
of depositor

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM

Identification reference given by the
DEPOSITOR

Escherichia coli 505

Accession number given by the
**INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY
AUTHORITY:**
B-8124

II. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DESIGNATION

The microorganism identified under I above was accompanied by:

☒ a scientific description
☐ a proposed taxonomic designation
(Mark with a cross where applicable)

producer of L-leucine

III. RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE

This International Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified under I above,
1 which was received by it on 14.05.01 (date of original deposit)

IV. RECEIPT OF REQUEST FOR CONVERSION

The microorganism identified under I above was received by this International Depositary
Authority on 14.05.01 (date of original deposit) and a request to convert the
original deposit to a deposit under the Budapest Treaty was received by it on
01/02/02 (date of receipt of request for conversion)

V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY

Name: Russian National Collection
of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM)

GosNIIGenetika
Address: Russia 113545 Moscow
1 Dorozhny proezd 1

Signature (s) of person(s) having the
power to represent the International
Depositary Authority or authorized official(s):
Date: Sinenky S.P.
05/02/02



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name and address
of depositor

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM

Identification reference given by the
DEPOSITOR

Escherichia coli 218

Accession number given by the
**INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY-
AUTHORITY:**
B-8125

II. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DESIGNATION

The microorganism identified under I above was accompanied by:

☒ a scientific description
☐ a proposed taxonomic designation
(Mark with a cross where applicable)

producer of L-methionine

III. RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE

This International Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified under I above.
1 which was received by it on 14.05.01 (date of original deposit)

IV. RECEIPT OF REQUEST FOR CONVERSION

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original deposit to a deposit under the Budapest Treaty was received by it on
01/02/02 (date of receipt of request for conversion)

V. INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY

Name: Russian National Collection
of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM)

GosNIIGenetika
Address: Russia 113545 Moscow
1 Dorozhny proezd I

Signature (s) of person(s) having the
power to represent the International
Depositary Authority or authorized official(s):
Date: 03/02/02
Sinevsky S.P.



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Tokyo 104-8315
Japan
name and address
of depositor

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICROORGANISM

Identification reference given by the DEPOSITOR	Accession number given by the INTERNATIONAL DEPOSITARY AUTHORITY:
<i>Escherichia coli</i> 73	B-8126

II. SCIENTIFIC DESCRIPTION AND/OR PROPOSED TAXONOMIC DESIGNATION

The microorganism identified under I above was accompanied by:

☒ a scientific description producer of L-methionine
☐ a proposed taxonomic designation
(Mark with a cross where applicable)

III. RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE

This International Depositary Authority accepts the microorganism identified under I above,
1 which was received by it on 14.05.01 (date of original deposit)

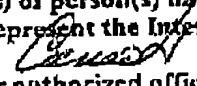
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Name: Russian National Collection
of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM)

GosNIIGenetika
Address: Russia 113545 Moscow
1 Dorozhny proezd 1

Signature (s) of person(s) having the
power to represent the International
Depositary 
Authority or authorized official(s):
Date: Sinceoky S.P.
05/02/02



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